

## Message Text

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E O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. SPAIN: SIZING UP OREJA

EMBASSY MADRID CHARACTERIZES FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA AS A  
LOW-KEY, PROGRESSIVE FORMER DIPLOMAT WITH PRO-AMERICAN  
INCLINATIONS AND A MODEST POLITICAL BASE. THE EMBASSY ADDS  
THAT OREJA:

--LACKS AREILZA'S POLITICAL WEIGHT, BUT, AS A MEMBER  
OF ARIAS' BRAIN TRUST, PLAYS A LEADING ROLE IN DEVEL-  
OPING THE GOVERNMENT'S INTERNAL POLITICAL PROGRAM;  
AND

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--SHOWED POLITICAL COURAGE BY DISTANCING HIMSELF FROM

THE FRANCO REGIME ON CERTAIN ISSUES.

IN THE EMBASSY'S VIEW, OREJA'S PRINCIPAL CONCERNS AS FOREIGN MINISTER WILL INCLUDE:

--SEEKING FULL PARTNERSHIP IN THE EC;

--NEGOTIATION OF A NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH THE VATICAN;

--NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH MEXICO, ISRAEL, MOROCCO AND EASTERN EUROPE; AND

--SECURING SOME ADVANTAGE FOR SPAIN'S LOS INTERESTS.  
(CONFIDENTIAL) MADRID 5683, 7/24.)

## 2. FRG ELECTION OUTLOOK: COALITION TO WIN BY REDUCED MARGIN

SPD DEPUTY CHAIRMAN KOSCHNIK RECENTLY PREDICTED TO WESTERN DIPLOMATS THAT THE OCTOBER ELECTIONS WILL PRODUCE AN SPD/FDP COALITION WITH A MAJORITY GREATER THAN THAT OF 1969 (12 SEATS) BUT SMALLER THAN THAT OF 1972 (46). AS KOSCHNIK SEES IT:

--THE MAJOR FACTOR FAVORING THE COALITION IS PUBLIC OPTIMISM ABOUT THE ECONOMY.

--THE GOVERNMENT FEARS THE OPPOSITION WILL CAPITALIZE ON PUBLIC CONCERN ABOUT LAW AND ORDER, ESPECIALLY IF AN OUTBREAK OF TERRORISM OCCURS SHORTLY BEFORE THE VOTING.

--IF THE COALITION IS TO RETAIN POWER, IT MUST HOLD GAINS MADE AMONG OLDER VOTERS IN 1972.

--FOREIGN POLICY IS NOT LIKELY TO BE A MAJOR CAMPAIGN ISSUE.

EMBASSY COMMENT: KOSCHNIK AVOIDED COMMENT ON THE LONGEVITY OF A COALITION GOVERNMENT BASED ON A SLIM MAJORITY, BUT HIS  
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BRIEFING SEEMS TO REFLECT THE SITUATION AS IT NOW STANDS.  
(CONFIDENTIAL) BONN 12382, 7/22.)

## 3. COOLING CURRENTS IN THE EAST CHINA SEA?

EMBASSY TOKYO REPORTS TWO INDICATIONS OF A COOLING IN JAPAN-PRC RELATIONS:

--PEKING SUDDENLY REQUESTED POSTPONEMENT OF NEGOTIATIONS TO ESTABLISH SHIPPING OFFICES IN TOKYO AND PEKING.

--THE CHINESE BACKED AWAY FROM DISCUSSIONS, WHICH HAD BEEN PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY, ON A SPECIAL CEREMONY TO COMMEMORATE THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF PRC-JAPAN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

FOREIGN OFFICE CHINA DIRECTOR FUJITA WONDERED ALOUD IF THE PRC BY THESE GESTURES HAS SIGNALLED ITS PIQUE OVER MIYAZAWA'S RECENT STATEMENTS CRITICIZING THE PRC FOR ITS ACTIVITIES ON JAPAN'S NORTHERN TERRITORIES DISPUTE WITH THE USSR AND WARNING AGAINST NORMALIZATION OF US-PRC RELATIONS. (CONFIDENTIAL) TOKYO 11145, 7/23.)

#### 4. PHILIPPINES: THE REGIME UNVEILS ITS THREATS

IN A JULY 23 SPEECH WARNING AGAINST SUBVERSION AND ANARCHY, DEFENSE MINISTER ENRILE STATED THAT IF REPRISALS BECOME NECESSARY, THEY WILL NOT BE AS "BLOODLESS" AS IN 1972. EMBASSY MANILA BELIEVES THE SPEECH WAS PROMPTED BY:

--THE REGIME'S FRUSTRATION AT CONTINUING DISTURBANCES AMONG THE DETAINEES DESPITE GOVERNMENT EFFORTS AT ACCOMMODATION;

--THE ACTIVIST CLERGY'S SUPPORT FOR THE DETAINEES AND DISINCLINATION TO COOPERATE WITH THE GOVERNMENT;

--THE VISIT OF ICRC REPRESENTATIVES WHOSE FINDINGS ALLEGEDLY SUPPORT CHARGES OF TORTURE; AND

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--MARCOS' COMMITMENT TO HAVE ALL DETAINEES WITH CASES PENDING TRIED BY THE FIRST WEEK OF AUGUST.

EMBASSY COMMENT: ASIDE FROM THE DAMAGE IT DOES TO THE GOP IMAGE OF "SMILING MARTIAL LAW," ENRILE'S SPEECH RAISES THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE REGIME'S RHETORIC MIGHT MOVE IT TOWARD INFLEXIBLE POSITIONS HITHERTO SHREWDLY AVOIDED. (CONFIDENTIAL) MANILA 10890, 7/23.)

#### 5. URUGUAY: RUMORED RESIGNATION PORTENDS BROADER CHANGES

THOUGH UNMENTIONED IN THE PRESS, THE RUMORED RESIGNATION OF ECONOMIC MINISTER VEGH VILLEGAS IS TAKEN SERIOUSLY--AND PESSIMISTICALLY--BY EMBASSY MONTEVIDEO'S CONTACTS. VEGH HAS DIFFERED WITH PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE MENDEZ OVER:

--THE SLOW PACE IN RETURNING TO DEMOCRACY AND CIVIL-  
ZAN POLITICAL ACTIVITY;

--THE FORTHCOMING "INSTITUTIONAL ACT" DEPRIVING POLI-  
TICIANS OF THEIR RIGHT TO RUN FOR OFFICE; AND

--VEGH'S REPORTED EXCLUSION FROM THE PLANNING OF  
MENDEZ' GOVERNMENTAL REORGANIZATION AND, SPECIFIC-

ALLY, THE ECONOMIC "SUPER-MINISTRY".

EMBASSY COMMENT: ALTHOUGH VEGH AND MENDEZ HAVE BEEN ON GOOD  
TERMS IN THE PAST, THERE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A PARTING OF  
WAYS SINCE THE BORDABERRY OUSTER. PARTY TIES RUN DEEP IN  
URUGUAY, AND THE COUNTRY IS IN TRANSITION FROM A CATHOLIC-  
ORIENTED COLORADO GOVERNMENT INCLUDE VEGH TO A MASONIC-  
INFLUENCED BLANCO ADMINISTRATION HEADED BY MENDEZ. THIS MAY  
PORTEND SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES FOR VEGH AND THE ENTIRE GOVERN-  
MENT. (CONFIDENTIAL MONTEVIDEO 2743, 7/23.) KISSINGER

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